

The Senate Education and Youth Committee offered the following substitute to SB 132:

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

To enact the "Dropout Deterrent Act"; to provide for a short title; to amend Part 1 of Article 16 of Chapter 2 of Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to school attendance in elementary and secondary education, so as to revise the age of mandatory education; to provide for a waiver; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

SECTION 1.

This Act shall be known and may be cited as the "Dropout Deterrent Act."

SECTION 2.

Part 1 of Article 16 of Chapter 2 of Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to school attendance in elementary and secondary education, is amended in Code Section 20-2-690.1, relating to mandatory education for children, by revising subsection (a) as follows:

"(a) Mandatory attendance in a public school, private school, or home school program shall be required for children between their sixth and ~~sixteenth birthdays~~ seventeenth birthdays; provided, however, that a parent or guardian may sign a waiver for his or her child to opt out of a traditional public school setting between the age of 16 and 17 so long as the child enrolls in and attends a community college or technical school, which for purposes of this subsection shall be considered attendance in a public school, until such child reaches the age of 17. Such mandatory attendance shall not be required where the child has successfully completed all requirements for a high school diploma."

SECTION 3.

All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.